

## ANDROGEN MISANTHROPY

the same god who gave to some boys  
the gift of extra sex hormones  
attached the side effect of acne vulgaris  
to assure that they wouldn't get laid.

## THE THIN PINK LINE

the nice thing about a single girl  
is that she has the time and place  
to be with you.

the nice thing about a married woman  
is that she doesn't.

this is also the bad thing  
about them both.

## THE ULTIMATE OBSCENITY

a minister calls the talk show  
to brand the epidemics of herpes and a.i.d.s.  
a visitation of the lord upon us  
for our promiscuity and perversions.  
he does not exclude the innocently infected  
dead children.

when the talk show host attempts to characterize  
the minister's god as "vengeful,"  
he rejects this term,  
biblical though it may be,  
in favor of "just."

## NOT EVEN ACNE, WHICH GOES DEEPER

there is literally nothing more superficial than a tan.

## THE KIND OF YEAR IT'S BEEN

we're well into december  
and i finally had something happen  
worth celebrating,

so i sliced my thumb  
on the champagne foil.

-- Gerald Locklin

Long Beach CA